

Biblical Scriptures in Light of the Qur'an



How Biblical Scholars Confirm the
Qur'anic Narrative

Agenda



- ❧ Islamic Narrative
- ❧ Introduction to the Bible
 - ◆ Biblical Contradictions
 - ◆ Scribal Alterations
- ❧ Story of Joseph (AS) in the Qur'an and Bible
- ❧ Conclusion

Islamic Narrative



- ❧ Six pillars of Iman
- ❧ Belief in Gospel (Injeel) and Jesus (AS) part of Iman
- ❧ Gospel of Jesus (AS) does not exist today
 - ◆ Preserving texts a test from God
 - ◆ How was Qur'an preserved?

- ❧ *(Surah 5:13) But because of their breach of their covenant, We cursed them, and made their hearts grow hard; they change the words from their (right) places and forget a good part of the message that was sent them...*

Islamic Narrative



✧ Jesus Christ (AS) in Islam

- ◆ Miraculous birth
- ◆ Denies claiming divinity
- ◆ Neither killed nor crucified
- ◆ Return to Earth and burial

Intro to the Bible



- ❧ Unknown to most Christians
- ❧ Early Christians differed on:
 - ◆ Was Jesus Divine?
 - ◆ Does crucifixion bring salvation?
 - ◆ Did Jesus even die?
 - ◆ Which books were from God?
- ❧ Dozens of different accounts (i.e., books) of Jesus (AS) circulate after his ascension

Intro to the Bible



- ✧ Church forms “Bible” by decreeing which books to include (367 A.D.):
 - ◆ Old Testament (39 books)
 - ◆ New Testament (27 books)
 - ◆ Unknown authors & pseudepigraphy

- ✧ No original copies of these books exist today
 - ◆ “Ancient manuscripts” are oldest copies of originals
 - ◆ Study into ancient manuscripts begins in 19th century
 - ◆ KJV English standard from 1611 to 20th century

Biblical Contradictions



❧ *(Surah 4:82) Do they not consider the Qur'an (with care)? Had it been from other than Allah, they would surely have found therein much discrepancy.*

❧ Biblical contradictions examples:

- ◆ Mark 14:12 vs. John 19:14: After or before Passover?
- ◆ Matthew 1 vs. Luke 3: Jesus' genealogy via Joseph?

Biblical Contradictions



❧ *Zechariah 9:9*

*Behold, your king is coming to you,
Humble and mounted on a donkey,
And on a colt, the foal of a donkey*

❧ Synonymous parallelism

❧ Author of Matthew 21:7 did not understand

Scribal Alterations



❧ *(Surah 4:171)...Say not "trinity": desist: it will be better for you: for God is one God. Glory be to Him: (far exalted is He) above having a son. To Him belong all things in the heavens and on earth. And enough is God as a Disposer of affairs.*

❧ Only one explicit Biblical verse supports Trinity:

- ◆ 1 John 5:7
- ◆ Not found in Greek manuscript prior to 15th century
- ◆ First appears in 9th or 10th century in Latin

Scribal Alterations



❧ *(Surah 5:116) And Lo! God said: O Jesus, son of Mary! Didst thou say unto men, `Worship me and my mother as deities beside God'?" [Jesus] answered: "Limitless art Thou in Thy glory! It would not have been possible for me to say what I had no right to [say]!...*

❧ **Matthew 23:36**

- ◆ *But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.*
- ◆ Scribes removed “nor the Son”

Scribal Alterations



☞ Mark 1:1-3

- ◆ *Just as it is written in Isaiah, Behold I am sending a messenger before your face...make straight his path"*
- ◆ Beginning of quote from Malachi, not Isaiah
- ◆ Altered to "Just as it is written in the prophets..."

☞ Luke 2:33

- ◆ *His (Christ's) father and mother were marveling at what was said to him.*
- ◆ Changed to *Joseph and his mother were marveling...*

Scribal Alterations



✧ Matthew 27:34

- ◆ *They gave him wine to drink mixed with gall...*
- ◆ Contradicts Matthew 26:29
- ◆ Altered to read “vinegar” instead of wine

✧ Woman taken into adultery (John 7:53-8:12)

- ◆ Not found in oldest manuscripts
- ◆ Uses large number of words alien to rest of gospel
- ◆ Added in different places

Story of Joseph (AS)



- ❧ Bible & Qur'an reference Joseph (AS) & Moses (AS)
- ❧ One key difference in accounts:
 - ◆ Bible refers to ruler of Egypt as “Pharaoh” for both prophets
 - ◆ Qur'an refers to ruler of Egypt as “King” during time of Joseph and “Pharaoh” during Moses
- ❧ Egyptologists discovered ruler was not called Pharaoh until New Kingdom (14th century B.C.)

Conclusion



- ❧ Biblical scholars confirm what the Qur'an told us 1,400 years ago:
 - ◆ Bible contains errors
 - ◆ Scribes changed texts
 - ◆ Jesus never claimed to be God and never taught trinity

- ❧ *(Surah 18:27) "And recite (and teach) what has been revealed to thee of the Book of thy Lord: none can change His Words, and none wilt thou find as a refuge other than Him."*